

#### Amendments of the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the above-identified patent application:

#### Listing of Claims

1-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for relieving discomfort caused by swollen tissue ailments comprising:

a strip of material having first and second ends,  
wherein:

said strip of material is crescent shaped,  
said strip of material having one side that  
includes an adhesive applied at least to said first and second  
ends, and

said strip and said adhesive, ~~when~~ are operable  
to be applied to a person's body, ~~acting and~~ to separate said  
swollen tissue from non-swollen tissue when applied.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13,  
further comprising:

a second strip of material having third and fourth  
ends, wherein said second strip of material is crescent shaped;  
and

said second strip of material having a side that  
includes said adhesive applied at least to said third and fourth  
ends, said second strip and said adhesive, when applied to said  
person's body, acting to separate said swollen tissue from said  
non-swollen tissue.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said adhesive is absent from a portion of said second strip of material between said third and fourth ends.

16-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said adhesive is absent from a portion of said strip of material between said first and second ends.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said strip of material and said second strip of material are each pre-formed pieces of material configured such that, when applied to a person's body, they separate the buttocks to relieve discomfort cause by hemorrhoids.

22-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein said ~~being~~ operable to be applied to said person's body comprises:

said first and second ends ~~being~~ are operable to be respectively applied to said person's buttock and hip, wherein said buttock and said hip are on the same side of said person's body.

28. (Withdrawn) A method of relieving discomfort caused by swollen tissue ailments comprising:

applying a crescent shaped strip of material, having a first end and a second end, to a person's body, wherein said applying comprises:

adhering said first end to a first portion of said person's body,

adhering said second end to a second portion of said person's body, and

causing swollen tissue of said person's body to be separated from non-swollen tissue of said person's body.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein:

said first portion of said person's body is a buttock;

said first portion of said person's body is a hip; and

said buttock and said hip are on the same side of said person's body.

30. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 28 further comprising:

applying a second crescent shaped strip of material, having a third end and a fourth end, to said person's body, wherein said applying comprises:

adhering said third end to a third portion of said person's body; and

adhering said fourth end to a fourth portion of said person's body, and wherein:

said crescent shaped strip of material and said second crescent shaped strip of material work together to cause said swollen tissue to be separated from said non-swollen tissue.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, wherein:

said third portion of said person's body is a buttock;

said fourth portion of said person's body is a hip;  
and

said buttock and said hip are on the same side of said  
person's body.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30 further comprising:  
relieving the discomfort cause by hemorrhoids.

33. (New) An apparatus for relieving discomfort caused by  
swollen tissue ailments, the apparatus comprising:  
a strip of material that is crescent shaped, the strip  
of material comprising:  
a first end;  
a second end;  
an adhesive applied to one side of the strip of  
material; and  
a tab, wherein the tab is located on at least one  
of the first end and the second end; and  
wherein the strip is operable to:  
be applied to a person's body; and  
separate swollen tissue from non-swollen tissue  
when applied.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the adhesive  
is absent from a portion of the side of the strip of material  
between the first end and the second end.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the adhesive  
is applied to the entirety of the side of the strip of material.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first end and the second end are operable to:

be applied, respectively, to the person's buttock and to the person's hip, wherein the buttock and the hip are on the same side of the person's body; and

separate the swollen tissue from non-swollen tissue when applied.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the strip is further operable to separate the person's buttocks to relieve discomfort caused by hemorrhoids when applied.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, further comprising one or more rubber separation knobs, wherein the one or more rubber separation knobs are located on at least one of the first end and the second end.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 33, further comprising:  
a second strip of material that is crescent shaped,  
wherein the second strip of material comprises:

an adhesive applied to one side of the second strip; and

a tab, wherein the tab is located on at least one of the ends of the second strip.